

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	1.KBW Assistance in Grain Requisitions near Jaroslaw 2.KBW Raid on Partisans in 1951	DATE DISTR.	29 July 1954
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Military assistance in connection with grain requisitions:

1. In the fall of every year, the KBW (Internal Security Corps) takes part in grain requisitions and renders some sort of military assistance to the UB (Security Police) and militia. So it was in the years 1950, 1951, and 1952.

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2. The politruk [] was Lieutenant Czerniowski (fnu). He often stated that in our voivodship the inhabitants were especially hostile towards the government and the peasants delayed delivering the grain. It was threatened that no bread would be found in the cities, but that the peasants wanted to speculate and sell on the black market. The authorities would therefore take action to force the peasants to fulfill their deliveries. The KBW's role, just by its mere presence, would be to enforce this action and frighten the people into realizing that this whole thing was in earnest. Moreover, all the UB functionaries, Party activists and militia certainly know that the KBW would support them. He ended his lecture by saying that the kulaks and reluctant peasants ought to remember what the Polish people's power is, and ought to understand that this power can accomplish what it sets out to do.

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3. [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] the purpose was to secure the safety of all the election agitators and active Communists, who were often treated roughly by the people. The KBW assistance is effective because the people remember how the KBW, after the war, ruthlessly killed all partisans or suspect partisans, or those who helped them, or were thought to have rendered them assistance. Our role was to show ourselves in patrols in the villages, and we were not to act without orders.

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4. [REDACTED]

and a civilian UB functionary dressed as a soldier accompanied each patrol. He served as some sort of a communications link between the patrol on the one side and the militia and UB, who were active in the villages, on the other side.

5. Our equipment consisted of rifles and automatic weapons, rockets and grenades. The remainder was field equipment. Each man received live ammunition. Each day we received new passwords and security signals because the partisans often clothed themselves as KBW functionaries and terrorized the UB people and the militia who were active in the villages during special actions.
6. As I understood it, each patrol from our platoon was assigned to patrol a commune and circulate in all the villages belonging to the commune. It was evident that the authorities feared riots and therefore loaded their districts with KBW troops. We could always get reinforcements from Rzeszów if we needed them.
7. The procedure to compel the peasants to make grain deliveries was as follows: First an official from the tax office showed the peasant a penalty tax paper in the presence of the UB people and militia. The tax sum was always so computed that the peasant could not possibly pay it. When he refused to pay it, there was a search of the entire farmyard, and all grain which could be found was confiscated. Nothing was left behind. Even the spring sowing seed and the grain the family needed for itself was taken. The peasant was often obliged to buy the missing quantity of grain from a neighbor. If the peasant did not pay, or if enough grain could not be found, the peasant was arrested and brought to the district town. His family was left to its fate. The arrested peasants were sentenced later to one or two years in a labor camp.
8. For us in the KBW, there was not much to do. Occasionally our patrols were called up to the UB chief in Jaroslaw, who gave us detailed daily instructions and informed us about the terrain, conditions, roads, political atmosphere in certain villages, etc. On short moves we marched; on longer trips, the UB requisitioned trucks or tractors from the nearest PGR (State Farms). Sometimes a patrol's operation lasted only one day, sometimes up to five days. During the nights we were quartered in some yard which was designated by a communal official. Each commune had its UB intelligence official, an ordinary civilian. This intelligence official was the person who showed us where we were to be quartered. The KBW soldiers had orders not to talk with the people and not to fraternize with anyone. We could speak with the UB people, the militia, and the public servants.
9. In practice, this restriction was not observed very rigidly, because the discipline within the KBW was far from first rate at this time. The most stupid and least trained recruits were regularly chosen for the KBW. Then political matters were pumped into their heads. The result was that they felt important and, on the whole, all too exalted to subordinate themselves completely to common military discipline. This, in turn, resulted in their discussing almost every common little order from the political viewpoint. An order was carried out quickly only when there was a higher officer present and the boys were afraid. Many of these boys were zealous and eager because zeal was rewarded with extra furloughs.

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10. During our patrol activity we had good contacts with the girls in the villages and we knew very well what took place there. We often told them that they should not be afraid because times were not such that we would shoot our own people.

11. When our platoon was stationed in Jaroslaw, we had the usual exercises when the patrol activity was not especially great. A higher officer often came from the regiment to inspect us during such exercises. Sometimes we were visited by the company politruk who served us his usual portion of nagging.

12. [REDACTED]

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13. A great raid was made in May 1951 when a parachute drop of partisans was made [REDACTED] The raid was carried out by two KBW regiments, one of which was stationed in Rzeszow; the other came as a reinforcement from Lublin. The Lublin regiment blocked the entire suspected area, and our regiment carried out actions within the circle which embraced the whole Lubaszow district, including the villages of Sieniawa, Oleszyce, Gekowo, and others.

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14. [REDACTED]

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tight. An armed soldier stood at approximately every ten meters. The operation which our regiment carried out within the circle was called

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15. When the last KBW detachment departed from the raid area, partisans were suddenly discovered. No one would have discovered them if they had not revealed themselves. They were evidently sleeping in some cave near the highway and were suddenly awakened by the marching troops. This occurred early in the morning and they were probably a little giddy in the head for they began

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[REDACTED] transformed into a kind of a bunker and perhaps well fortified. The KBW troops encircled the cave, dug down, and fired at it with machine guns and rifles. The partisans first shouted to the KBW: "Communists, let us go, otherwise we will shoot you all down." When they were not released, both sides began shooting. The shooting lasted six hours. The ring around them was closing when the partisans decided to make a break. One of them raised himself in order to throw out a grenade, but he was shot. The grenade burst in the air and killed all three of them. The corpses were sent by auto to the regiment in Rzeszow and whoever wanted could look at them. They were clothed in American uniforms, armed with Sten guns, automatic pistols, and grenades. They had a wireless transmitter through which they spoke in both English and Polish. Radio troops within the KBW had tried to locate them but they were not successful. They had been active for several weeks and would never have been discovered if they had not been unlucky. Shepherds had found a radio battery and other military gear in the field and had turned these things in to the commune where it was believed that they had been parachuted in. After this it was decided that a raid should be made. First a reconnaissance was made by plane, but with no results. Later a group of officers from Warsaw, with army commander General Hubner himself in command, arrived and engineered the raid.

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